

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend page 16, second paragraph, as follows:

The individual passages projecting through the dilation unit 2 are each equipped with a fluid-tight sluice mechanism 15, which in a simplest case is based on the elasticity of the balloon material of which the dilation unit is made. Either the elastic, inflatable material snuggles, practically following the contours, to an outer circumferential edge of the inflated dilation unit 2 and of the aortic wall, such as is the case for example in Fig. 3 with reference to the passages for the coronary catheter C, or the passages are located in the middle of the dilation unit and form tube-like passages in which the channel walls snuggle to each other in a fluid-tight manner in an inflated state and are pressed apart in a fluid-tight manner when a catheter is introduced. Thus, the sluice mechanism seals passages fluid-tight without the provision of an auxiliary catheter when the dilation unit disposed on the proximal side is in an inflated state.